# Maryland Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan Data

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Development Period: A.D. 1930-Present

Historic Period Theme: Military

Resource Type:

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Military Installation Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Warehouse

Known Design Source: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

| Survey | No. | HA-1850 |
|--------|-----|---------|
|        |     |         |

Magi No.

DOE \_\_yes \_\_no

| <u> 1. Nam</u>                                       | (indicate pre  | ferred name)   |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| historic Buil  | lding <u>E5244 (Preferr</u>  | ed)  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| and/or common  | Warehouse  |  | ·  |  |
| 2. Loca  | ation  |  |  |  |
| street & number                                      | Hoadley Road, Edg  | ewood Area, Aberdee  | n Proving Ground -   | NA not for publication   |
| city, town Edg                                       | gewood   | _x_ vicinity of  | congressional district   | 2  |
| state Marylan  | nd   | county   | Harford  |  |
|  | sification   |  |  |  |
| Category  district building(s) structure site object | Ownership  X public  private  both  Public Acquisition  in process  being considered  not applicable | Status  X occupied  unoccupied  work in progress  Accessible  yes: restricted X yes: unrestricted no | Present Use  agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial X military | museum park private residence religious scientific transportation other: |
| 4. Own   | er of Proper   | ty (give names an  | nd mailing addresse  | es of <u>all</u> owners)   |
| street & number                                      | of the Army, Aberdee<br>Real Estate Secti<br>Derdeen Proving Grou                                    | on, Directorate of   |  | 00: (410) 278-7689<br>21005-5001   |
|  | ation of Lega  |  |  | 21003-3001   |
| J. LUCA  | ation of Legi  | ai Descriptio  | /11  |  |
| courthouse, regi                                     | stry of deeds, etc. Real   | Estate Section, DE   | W  | liber  |
| street & number                                      |  |  |  | folio  |
| city, town Abe                                       | erdeen Proving Groun   | d  | state  | MD   |
| 6. Rep   | resentation  | in Existing  | Historical Sur   | veys   |
| Alala III - 1  |  |  |  |  |
|  | c American Engineeri   | ng Record MD-4/  |  |  |
| date 1982  |  |  | X federal sta  | ite county loca  |
| ⇒pository for su                                     | urvey records Librar   | y of Congress, Prif  | ts and Photograph  | ns Division  |
| city, town Wa  | ashington  |  | state  | DC   |
|  |  | <del></del>  |  |  |

| 7. Desc                        | ription                            |                                 | Surve  | ey No. <b>HA-1</b> 850 |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|------------------------|
| Condition excellent goodX fair | deteriorated<br>ruins<br>unexposed | Check one unaltered _X_ altered | Check one _X_ original site moved date of move |                        |

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

(See Continuation Sheet)

| 8. Sig      | gnificance  |                   | Survey No. HA                                       | -1850  |
|-------------|---|-------------------|---|--|
| 1700–17     | 199 archeology-historic<br>199 agriculture<br>199 architecture<br>199 art<br>199 commerce |                   | g landscape architect law literature military music | science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater |
| Specific da | ites 1942   | Builder/Architect | U.S. Army Corps of E                                | ngineers                                       |
| A           | pplicable Criteria: <u>x_A</u> and/or pplicable Exception:A evel of Significance:         | BCD               |   |  |
| Prepare b   | oth a summary paragraph o   | f significance an | d a general statemen                                | t of history and                               |
| (See C      | ontinuation Sheet)  |                   |   |  |

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. HA-1850

(See Continuation Sheet)

| 10. Geographi   | cal Data                              |  |   |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| Acreage of nominated property _ Quadrangle name Edgewood, UTM References do NOT com   | >1 acre MD  plete UTM refere          | Quadrangle scale 1:24000                               |   |
| Zone Easting No   | orthing                               | Zone Easting Northing                                  | · |
| C   |                                       | D  |   |
| Manhal bassadama da a a takt  | and justification                     |  |   |
| (See Continuation Shee  | t)                                    | apping state or county boundaries                      |   |
| (See Continuation Shee  | t)                                    | apping state or county boundaries  county Harford code |   |
| (See Continuation Shee  | t)<br>or properties overla            |  |   |
| (See Continuation Shee  List all states and counties for  state Maryland  state   | or properties overla<br>code<br>code  | county Harford code                                    |   |
| (See Continuation Shee  List all states and counties for  state Maryland  state  11. Form Prep                              | code code code                        | county Harford code                                    |   |
| (See Continuation Shee  List all states and counties for  state Maryland  State  11. Form Prep  name/title Katherine Grand  | code code code                        | county Harford code  county code                       |   |
| List all states and counties for state Maryland state  11. Form Preponame/title Katherine Grand organization R. Christopher | code code code ared By dine/Historian | county Harford code  county code                       |   |

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to:

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DHCP/DHCD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023
-514-7600

### 7. DESCRIPTION

Building E5244 is a general purpose warehouse located at the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground. It was constructed in 1942. The building is located in the industrial core near the site of the original World War I shell-filling plants, southwest of Fleming Road and east of Hoadley Road.

Building E5244 is typical of World War II permanent warehouse construction. The building is a long rectangular structure resting on a concrete slab foundation. Constructed of structural clay tile walls, the building terminates in a gable roof clad in asphalt shingles. The roof is pierced by four metal ventilators. The building has three overhead track doors located on the east wall and a smaller overhead track door located on the south gable end of the building. There are no windows. The building is utilitarian in its design and lacks stylistic references or ornamentation. Building E5244 exhibits numerous alterations to the exterior. All of the original loading docks, which once surrounded the building, have been removed. All the sliding doors on the west elevation have been infilled with concrete block.

CONTRIBUTING RESOURCE COUNT: 1

#### 8. SIGNIFICANCE

#### Summary

Building E5244 represents a common type of permanent storehouse that was constructed during World War II (Criterion A). However, the utilitarian storage facility functioned as a minor support building for the clothing impregnation plant complex that operated between 1941 and 1942 and possesses a minor association with World War II. The building is an example of a prevalent type of industrial warehouse (Criterion C). Building E5244 has been modified and does not retain sufficient integrity of design to serve as a representative example of the type, period, or method of construction (Criterion C). Due to subsequent alterations, it does not possess the qualities of significance for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

#### History

Building E5244 was constructed as one of numerous storage facilities erected during World War II at Edgewood Arsenal, known today as Edgewood Area. Edgewood Area has been associated closely with chemical warfare activities since its establishment in 1918. From 1918 through 1945, the Chemical Warfare Service coordinated the development, testing, production, storage, and deployment of chemical weapons. During World War II, permanent construction at Edgewood Area was concentrated in the industrial core and surrounding warehouse complexes. The World War I-era industrial core was expanded through the addition of utilitarian buildings to support chemical weapons production during World War II; older buildings were remodeled to accommodate new technologies. Of the 259 extant permanent buildings related to the World War II historic context in Edgewood Area, half of them were constructed as storehouses.

By World War II, the World War I era shell-filling plants at Edgewood Arsenal had been dismantled, and the site was occupied by Building E5238, a clothing impregnating facility located southeast of Building E5244. The clothing impregnation process treated manufactured clothing with a chemical solvent. This solvent was intended to provide protection by reacting with chemical agents and by preventing hazardous amounts of liquid or vapor from reaching the skin. At the beginning of World War II, impregnated clothing was an important component of emergency preparedness since the role chemical weapons would play in the war was unknown. The treated clothing was stockpiled for future use, as required by the exigencies of war.

#### Section 8.2

The clothing impregnation plant in Building E5238 operated between 1941 and 1942. The plant produced approximately 3,874,918 pounds of treated clothing and was the largest of four impregnating plants that operated at Edgewood Area. Chemicals for this process were received by tanker car from an adjoining railroad spur. Associated buildings surrounded the impregnating plant and included a water-cooling tower, above-ground steel storage tanks, and numerous warehouses, including Building E5244. The warehouses were used to store chemicals used in production, pretreated clothing, and impregnated clothing prior to shipment or storage. The buildings associated with the impregnation clothing plant remain extant, but their use in the industrial process was shortlived. Building E5238 only served as an impregnation clothing plant for one year. After the plant closed in 1942, the building was converted to office space. Building E5244 later was converted to a general storage facility (U.S. Army Environmental Hygiene Agency 1989:54-58, 872).

#### 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

Goodwin, R. Christopher, Katherine Grandine, Thomas W. Davis, Christopher R. Polglase, Kathryn M. Kuranda, Leo P. Hirrel, Tom Dod, Timothy Silva, S. Justine Woodard, Bethany M. Usher

1993 Aberdeen Proving Ground Cultural Resource Management Plan. Prepared by R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc., for Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Baltimore, Md. Draft Report.

Goodwin, R. Christopher, Kathryn M. Kuranda, W. Patrick Giglio, Katherine Grandine

1994 Architectural Survey and Assessment of Five Buildings at Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG), Aberdeen, Maryland. Prepared for Department of the Navy, Atlantic Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command.

Grandine, Katherine, Irene Jackson Henry, and William R. Henry Jr.

1982 DARCOM Historic Building Inventory: Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland. Prepared by the National Park Service Historic American Buildings Survey.

U.S. Army Environmental Hygiene Agency

1989 RCRA Facility Assessment, Edgewood Area. Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland.

Section 9.2

#### **ARCHIVAL SOURCES**

#### Aberdeen Proving Ground

Directorate of Public Works. Map collections, real property records, architectural drawing archives.

### Library of Congress

Prints and Photographs Division. Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record.

## **National Archives**

Records of the Office of Chief of Engineers. RG 77, Completion Reports, Aberdeen Proving Ground and Edgewood Arsenal, 1917-1943.

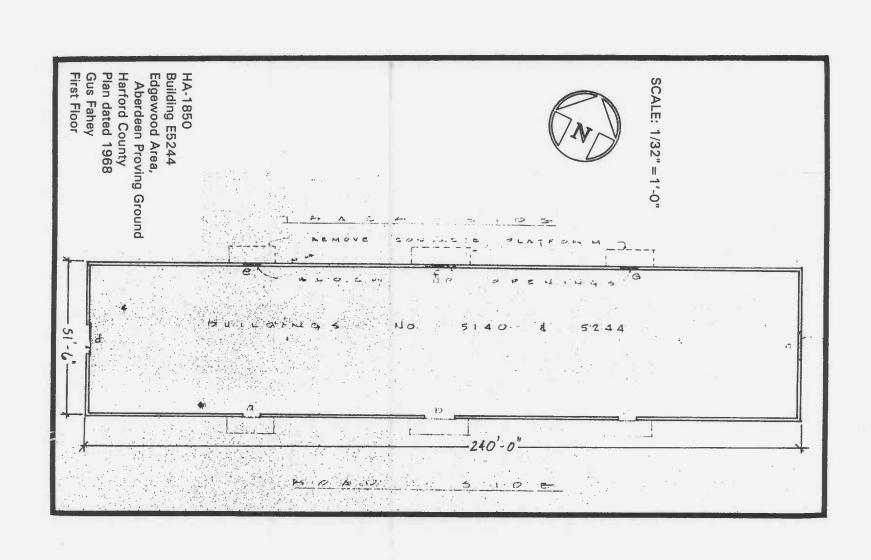
Records of the Office of the Quartermaster General. RG 92, Construction Division, Completion Reports, Aberdeen Proving Ground and Edgewood Arsenal, 1917-1940.

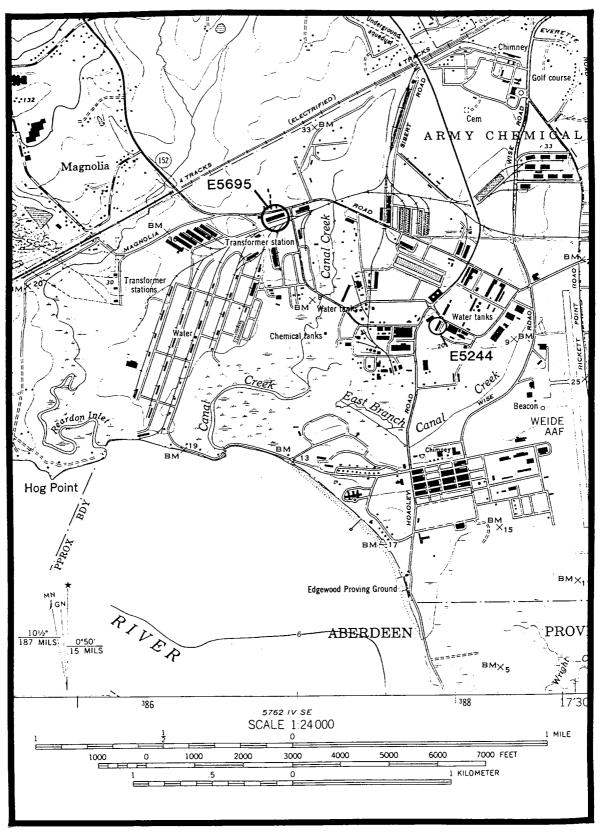
Records of the Chief of Ordnance. RG 156, Histories of Ordnance Installations, 1940-1945 (Entry 646).

Records of the Chief of Ordnance. RG 156, Ordnance Proving Grounds, 1940-1945 (Entry 646A).

#### 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Building E5244 is located southwest of Fleming Road and east of Hoadley Road at Edgewood Area, Aberdeen Proving Ground. The boundaries of the property are the footprint of the building and is the original placement of the structure when it was constructed in 1942.





HA-1850 Building E5244 Edgewood Area, Aberdeen Proving Ground Harford County Edgewood Quadrangle



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